



Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

Required Report - public distribution

Date: 5/6/2002

GAIN Report #MO2008

Morocco

Citrus

Semi-Annual

2002

Approved by:

Merritt Chesley

U.S. Embassy, Rabat, Morocco

Prepared by:

Aziz Abdelali

Report Highlights:

Production of late-maturing oranges for 2001/2002 is revised downward. Total exports of fresh citrus are not expected to increase dramatically from last year in spite of the significant increase in Clementine-like and Navel exports. Orange processing is not expected to exceed 30,000 MT because of the high local prices for fresh oranges.

Includes PSD changes: Yes

Includes Trade Matrix: No

Annual Report

Rabat [MO1], MO

Table of Contents

Production:	1
Exports:	1
Export to U.S.	1
Processing:	1

Executive Summary

Production: Estimates for 2001/2002 late citrus varieties (Maroc/Valencia Late) have been revised downward following the dry weather conditions especially in the Souss region (vicinity of Agadir) and the central areas (Marrakech and Beni Mellal). The fruit size for the major orange variety (Maroc/Valencia late) is expected to be smaller, suggesting smaller quantities of export-suitable fruits than anticipated earlier in the year. The export season for Maroc/Valencia Late variety ends normally in June.

Exports: Total citrus exports are expected to be similar to last year's level in spite of the significant increase in exports of small citrus fruit (clementine-like) and the Navel Oranges. The anticipated drop in exports of the Maroc/Valencia Late oranges is expected to more than offset the increase of exports in other early and mid-season varieties.

Export to U.S.: As of the end of April, Morocco has exported 3,363 MT of clementines and 306 MT of oranges in MY 2001/02. The difficulties faced by Spanish exports to the U.S. opened a small window for Moroccan clementines but the timing was late since the Clementine export seasons ends by mid-January. Exports of citrus to the U.S. are not expected to increase significantly because Moroccan exporters are likely to continue to give priority to the EU market, where they have preferential access, and to the less demanding Eastern European markets.

Processing: As of April, the strong demand for fresh citrus fruit in the local market combined with the relatively small production of clementine-like and early and mid-season oranges resulted in constantly high prices in the fresh fruit market. Most farmers decided to sell their production to the fresh market because of the higher return. As a result, FRUMAT, the major citrus processor is not expected to process more than 30,000 MT of oranges, which represents about 10 percent of its capacity. This is likely to exacerbate FRUMAT financial difficulties.

PSD Table						
Country	Morocco					
Commodity	Fresh Oranges				(HECTARES)(1000 TREES)(1000 MT)	
	Revised	1999	Preliminary	2000	Forecast	2001
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		10/1999		10/2000		10/2001
Area Planted	49	49	49	49	49	49
Area Harvested	48	48	48	48	48	48
Bearing Trees	15900	15900	15900	15900	15900	15900
Non-Bearing Trees	200	200	200	200	200	200
TOTAL No. Of Trees	16100	16100	16100	16100	16100	16100
Production	845	845	693	693	725	680
Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL SUPPLY	845	845	693	693	725	680
Exports	298	298	240	240	300	200
Fresh Dom. Consumption	417	417	415	415	375	450
Processing	130	130	38	38	50	30
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	845	845	693	693	725	680

PSD Table						
Country	Morocco			65	Degrees Brix	
Commodity	Juice, Orange				(MT)	
	Revised	1999	Preliminary	2000	Forecast	2001
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		10/1999		10/2000		10/2001
Deliv. To Processors	130	130	38	38	50	30
Beginning Stocks	3384	3384	2855	3055	155	155
Production	13800	13800	4000	4000	5200	3200
Imports	283	283	400	400	500	500
TOTAL SUPPLY	17467	17467	7255	7455	5855	3855
Exports	12612	12612	4800	5500	3400	1900
Domestic Consumption	2000	1800	2300	1800	2300	1800
Ending Stocks	2855	3055	155	155	155	155
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	17467	17467	7255	7455	5855	3855

PSD Table						
Country	Morocco					
Commodity	Fresh Tangerines				(HECTARES)(1000 TREES)(1000 MT)	
	Revised	1999	Preliminary	2000	Forecast	2001
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		10/1999		10/2000		10/2001
Area Planted	21	21	21	21	21	21
Area Harvested	20	20	20	20	20	20
Bearing Trees	6700	6700	6700	6700	6700	6700
Non-Bearing Trees	150	150	150	150	150	150
TOTAL No. Of Trees	6850	6850	6850	6850	6850	6850
Production	511	511	222	260	400	310
Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL SUPPLY	511	511	222	260	400	310
Exports	272	272	99	136	200	190
Fresh Dom. Consumption	229	229	123	124	200	120
Processing	10	10	0	0	0	0
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	511	511	222	260	400	310